

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NEW DE 02401 171226Z
ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00
CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01
PA-01 PRS-01 SS-15 NSC-05 L-03 /102 W
-----171236Z 077338 /13

P R 171023Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1339
USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
AMCONSUL BOMBAY
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 2401

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: ELAB, ILO, IN
SUBJ: MARCH 1977 SESSION OF THE ILO GOVERNING BODY

REF: STATE 28274

1. BECAUSE OF DEATH OF THE INDIAN PRESIDENT WE WERE
UNABLE TO SEE SENIOR GOI OFFICIALS BEFORE FEBRUARY 16.
ON THAT DATE LABOR COUNSELOR CALLED ON LABOR SECRETARY,
DR AGHA, AND COVERED POINTS REFTEL. A COPY OF THE
AIDE MEMOIRE WAS GIVEN TO HIM. AS HE HAD STATED ON
JANUARY 28 (NEW DELHI 1386), AGHA REITERATED THAT HE
WAS OPTIMISTIC THAT THE "BOOK WOULD BE CLOSED" ON THE
ARAB-ISRAELI ISSUE. ON THE US PROPOSAL TO AMEND
ARTICLE 17, AGHA SAID THAT HE SAW NO DIFFICULTY
WITH THE SUBSTANCE OF OUR PROPOSAL, ALTHOUGH THE
EXACT PROCEDURE FOR REVIEWING RECEIVABILITY MIGHT
BE SUBJECT TO SOME NEGOTIATION. WHILE INDICATING A
GENERALLY POSITIVE ATTITUDE TOWARD THE PROPOSED AMEND-
MENT AND RECOGNIZING ITS IMPORTANCE TO THE USG'S ATTITUDE
TOWARD THE ILO, AGHA ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HE HAD NOT YET
DISCUSSED THE MATTER WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. AGHA
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PAGE 02 NEW DE 02401 171226Z

PLANS TO ARRIVE IN GENEVA ON OR ABOUT FEBRUARY 22 AND
IS LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETING DAN HOROWITZ THERE.

2. THE CHARGE RAISED THE POINTS REFTEL WITH FOREIGN
SECRETARY JAGHAT MEHTA FEBRUARY 16. MEHTA RECEIVED THE
DEMARCHE WITHOUT COMMENT.

3. POLITICAL COUNSELOR MET WITH DIRECTOR OF UN DIVISION OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, VINAY VERMA, ON FEBRUARY 10 AND ELECITED THE COMMENT THAT IN PRINCIPLE GOI WAS NOT OPPOSED TO SCREENING PROCEDURE FOR THE ILO TO WEED OUT UNDESIRABLE RESOLUTIONS, BUT IT WOULD HAVE TO EVALUATE REACTIONS OF OTHER INTERESTED GOVERNMENTS BEFORE REACHING DECISION ON THE PROPOSED US AMENDMENT. VERMA SAID HE UNDERSTOOD MOTIVE BEHIND US PROPOSAL AND DID NOT TAKE ISSUE WITH IT. THERE WERE COUNTRIES, HOWEVER, WHCIH SOUGHT MEANS OF "BLOWING OF STEAM", AND UNCOMFORTABLE THOUGH IT MIGHT BE, OPPORTUNITY FOR SUCH RESOLUTIONS IN UN ORGANIZATIONS MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO BE FORECLOSED. POL COUNSELOR EMPHASIZED THAT PRECISELY THIS SORT OF "STEAM BLOWIN" WAS THREATENING FUNCTIONING OF UN SPECIALIZED AGENCIES SUCH AS ILO AND UNESCO. VERMA SAID HE COULD VIRTUALLY GUARANTEE THAT HIS RESPONSE WOULD BE ECHOED AT HIGHER LEVELS.

4. COMGEN BOMBAY OFFICERS MET WITH INDIAN EMPLOYERS' REP, NAVAL TATA ON FEBRUARY 16. TATA STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE WHICH HE GAVE TO COLATINUED US PARTICIPATION IN THE ILO STATING THAT IF THE USG WERE IN FACT TO LEAVE THE ORGANIZATION A NUMBER OF WESTERN EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS WOULD "LOSE INTEREST" AND THE ILO WOULD CEASE TO HAVE ANY SIGNIFICANT INFLUENCE OR AUTHORITY. HE ASLO SAID HE RECOGNIZED THE NEED FOR THE ILO TO DEPOLITICIZE. TATA SEEMED SYMPATHETIC TO THE IDEA OF "CLOSING THE BOOK" ON THE 1974 RESOLUTION CONDEMNING ISRAEL AS AN INDICATOR THAT THE ILO WAS IN FACT DEPOLITICIZING. CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 NEW DE 02401 171226Z

WITH RESPECT TO AMENDING ARTICLE 17, TATA STATED THAT GIVEN THE TRIPARTITE NATURE OF THE ILO PASSAGE WOULD BE DIFFICULT. HE WAS ALSO SKEPTICAL THAT, EVEN IF PASSED, AN AMENDED ARTICLE 17 WOULD IN FACT AVOID POLITICAL POLEMICS IN THE ILO. NEVERTHELESS, HE STATED THAT HE "WAS INTERESTED IN HELPING THE US."

5. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE THAT GOI POSITION AT GENEVA WILL REFLECT THE COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE UN DIVISION. IF THE ABS OR OTHER MEMBERS OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT TAKE SERIOUS ISSUE WITH THE US POSITIONS ON THE ARAB-ISRAELI QUESTION AND THE AMENDING OF THE STANDING ORDERS, WE EXPECT THAT THE INDIANS WILL JOIN THEIR THIRD WORLD BRETHREN. SCHNEIDER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATIONS, CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS, AIDE MEMOIRE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977NEWDE02401
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Format: TEL
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770232/aaaabccz.tel
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Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Subject: MARCH 1977 SESSION OF THE ILO GOVERNING BODY
TAGS: ELAB, IN, ILO
To: STATE GENEVA
Type: TE
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